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EUGENE AIRPORT HIRES GOATS TO EAT HARD TO REACH BRUSH

Eugene — August 6, 2015 — Eugene Airport (EUG) has hired goats to gobble some hard to reach vegetation on airport property. Sixty Spanish and Kiko goats will feed on three acres of tall grass, berries, thistles and weeds in an overgrown riparian zone.

The dense area that the goats are temporarily calling home must be maintained but the steep terrain has become a safety issue for airport staff. Because it is part of a waterway, herbicides are not an option. Goats have a low impact on the environment and their sturdy hooves help them reach uneven places that machinery cannot.

“The goats are a perfect solution for the hard-to-reach places on the airport.” said Eugene Airport Director Tim Doll, AAE. “The goats will allow us to avoid using herbicides or operate our mowers on unsafe terrain.”

The goats will dine together in small sections until an area is nicely manicured. Then the temporary fencing and the herd are moved to the next section.

“It’s a common sense renaissance,” said Briana Murphy, owner of Goat Power. “Mowing with goats is an eco-friendly, natural approach to mitigating invasive vegetation.”

The goats will be working for at least ten days inside the perimeter fence of the airport.

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